

News release

 [PRINTABLE VERSION](#)

About

[Met Office](#)

[Hadley Centre](#)

[Terms and conditions](#)

[Accessibility](#)

News

[News release archive](#)

[Media Centre](#)

Learn

[About the weather](#)

[From the bookshelf](#)

Services

[Mobile forecasts](#)

[Weathercall](#)

[Marinecall](#)

[Monthly Outlook](#)

[MetWEB withdrawal](#)

[Talk to a forecaster](#)

Links

[Met Office data users](#)

[National met. services](#)

[Scientific interest sites](#)

[EA Floodline](#)

[Directgov](#)

[Freedom of Information](#)

Contact

[Contact us](#)

[FAQ](#)

Advice during severe weather

9 September 2004

Severe weather, even in the UK, can catch people out during everyday activities such as driving and walking or even in and around the home. Preventative action taken by individuals can help protect life and property.

With the first severe gales of the Autumn almost upon us, the Met Office has today launched a new service giving [advice to the public in the event of severe weather](#). This is part of an ongoing programme to improve its web-based services to the public and comes while working in partnership with other key organisations.

The advice is based on simple precautions that can be taken by individuals to help protect themselves during severe weather. It gives information on what to do during periods of:

- Severe gales
- Heavy rain
- Heavy snow and icy roads
- Thunderstorms and lightning
- Heat and sun
- Dense fog

Weather experts will routinely liaise with many organisations in order to give the best possible advice to the public. During periods of severe weather, these working relationships are critical in ensuring decision-makers have the right information to hand and can react effectively.

Roger Hunt, Chief Operating Officer for the Met Office said, "We are confident that our warnings are increasingly accurate and timely, but warnings alone are of limited value unless the public know how to react".

The Met Office has produced this guidance in conjunction with the [Highways Agency](#), the [Environment Agency](#), the [Scottish Environmental Protection Agency](#) and the [Buildings Research Establishment](#).

[Advice on actions to take when severe weather is forecast](#)